Center Innovation Fund: GSFC CIF

Phase Fresnel Lens Nanofabrication

NASA

Completed Technology Project (2015 - 2016)

Project Introduction

Using NASA APRA and internal GSFC funding, PFLs have been fabricated using MEMS techniques at both UMCP and GSFC and have been characterized to have nearly diffraction-limited imaging, ~14 milli-arcseconds in the best case. Initial work was also completed by using a PFL and refractive component to produce an acromat that significantly extended the X-ray bandwidth of the imaging. However, MEMS fabrication is costly and time consuming, which makes prototyping new designs difficult. What is needed is a cost-effective and rapid fabrication technique to fabricate new PFL-based designs with improved performance and then characterize their performance at the GSFC 600-m Interferometry Testbed. The hot embossing technique (a micro-scale "off-set printing" approach) recently developed by Northeaster University offers this possibility. DELIVERABLE IN FY16: At least one Phase Fresnel Lens of design for an appropriate X-ray energy and focal length that can be characterized in the GSFC 600-m Interferometry Testbed.

Anticipated Benefits

Heliophysics is also interested in using PFLs to perform high-angular resolution X-ray measurements of solar phenomena. PFLs have very long, 100 m -> >> km focal lengths (depending on X-ray energy and PFL diameter). Work is moving forward on developing formation-flying satellites (with N. Shah, Code 591) and we are part of a recently selected EPSCoR proposal (NMSU, PI institution) to develop a CubeSat mission to demonstrate formation flying and PFL imaging. Initial deliverable will be PFL(s) that will be characterized in the 600-m Interferometry Testbed. Based on these results, the NEU fabrication technique could be used to fabricate PFLs for the EPSCoR CubeSat mission.

The development of highly efficient and lightweight X-ray optics that image near the diffraction limit and over a wide energy range would be a transformational technical development.

Evaluating the NEU nanofabrication technique will allow NASA/GSFC to evaluate its potential in material engineering.



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Primary U.S. Work Locations and Key Partners



Organizations Performing Work	Role	Туре	Location
☆Goddard Space	Lead	NASA	Greenbelt,
Flight Center(GSFC)	Organization	Center	Maryland
Northeastern	Supporting	Academia	Boston,
University(NEU)	Organization		Massachusetts

Primary U.S. Work Locations		
Maryland	Massachusetts	

Organizational Responsibility

Responsible Mission Directorate:

Space Technology Mission Directorate (STMD)

Lead Center / Facility:

Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC)

Responsible Program:

Center Innovation Fund: GSFC CIF

Project Management

Program Director:

Michael R Lapointe

Program Manager:

Peter M Hughes

Principal Investigator:

Takashi Okajima

Co-Investigators:

John F Krizmanic Mahmooda Sultana



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Images



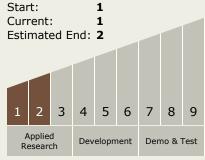
Phase Fresnel Lens Nanofabrication Project

Phase Fresnel Lens Nanofabrication Project (https://techport.nasa.gov/imag e/19319)

Project Website:

https://www.nasa.gov/directorates/spacetech/home/index.html





Technology Areas

Primary:

- TX08 Sensors and Instruments
 - ☐ TX08.1 Remote Sensing Instruments/Sensors
 - ☐ TX08.1.1 Detectors and Focal Planes

